Vol. II. Numb. III.

The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

From **Wednesday** March 8th. to **Friday** March 10th. 1710.

Q. GEntlemen, *Pleaſe to favor us with the Senſe of theſe Words,* 1 Cor. 16 Chap. *and latter part of* 20. Ver. Greet ye one another with an Holy Kiſs.

A. It was a common Practice amongſt Primitive Chriſtians to Kiſs one another after Prayers were over, as both *Tertullian* and *Origen* acquaint us. And the Apoſtle here with Relation to this Practice orders it to be done out of a Principle of Sincerity, Modeſty, and Religious Charity as became the Saints, and not Deceitfully, Profanely and Wantonly. And there was need of this Caution, conſidering how liable this Cuſtom was to be abuſed; and it was indeed actually afterwards to abuſed and profaned by the *Gnoſticks* and others, and drew on ſuch degrees of Familiarity as became at laſt the Scandal of Chriſtianity. But a *Holy Kiſs*, in the Senſe of the Apoſtle, was ſuch as was to be a Pledge of Chaſt and Spiritual Love.

Q. Gentlemen, *The Church of* England *doth in the Baptiſm of Infants appoint God fathers and God mothers, that Promiſe and are Sureties for the Child (who then is not capable of Reaſon) that he ſhall Believe,* &c.

Pray, what Authority is there from Scripture for Godfathers and Godmothers——if none (as I concieve there is not) then why are Sureties in Baptiſm required, and is it not drawing into Sin thoſe that do ſtand, ſince it may perhaps not be unreaſonable to Believe that of 12 *Godfathers or Mothers that Promiſe, not* 3 *do fulfill what they have Promiſed, and indeed tis hardly poſſible they ſhould.*

A. Tho' we have no Command in Scripture for Sponſors, yet we have the Example of the Primitive Church, which is ſufficient to warrant this Inſtitution. And by it the Church do's take greater Security for the Religious bringing up of the Infant, ſince an Obligation is laid not only upon the Parents but others alſo to take care of it. And in Caſe of Incapacity, Negligence or Death of the Parents, there is this farther Proviſion made that the Child have due Chriſtian Inſtruction and Admonition, the Sureties being more Solemnly engaged and better authorized to ſee it done than any other Perſons. Tis by no means fitting that this Obligation ſhou'd however be taken away, ſince the Sureties have hereby a better Opportunity of practiſing the Duty of Chriſtian Reproof. Men ought indeed to practice it towards all that deſerve it; yet, we ſay, they have a better Opportunity and more ample Authority for doing it to thoſe, for whoſe Salvation they are more peculiarly concerned. And it is no Argument againſt this Inſtitution, that this Duty itſelf is ſeldom practiced. For the goodneſs of a Rule is to be judged of by the good it do's where obſerv'd, and not where neglected. And thoſe that make ſuch Objections have it in their Power to ſhew the Benefit of this Order in the Church, and how great a means it is of Edification, by ſtrickly obſerving the Rule themſelves.

Q. Gentlemen, *Tis a Common Saying among Gentlemen, that I am bound to believe every Man an Honeſt Man, till I find the contrary. Is there any Scriptural Tye on me to believe this to be a Truth?*

Your Solution will Oblige Yours, Tho. Hicks.

A. Chriſtian Charity requires that you ſhou'd do ſo; for it is one of the Properties of Charity mentioned by St. *Paul to think no Evil*; that is, it is not jealous nor ſuſpicious, nor will it entertain an ill Opinion of Men's Actions or Reputation purely upon Fancy or Surmiſe, or flying Report; but makes a favorable Conſtruction of things, where there are not evident Reaſons for the contrary. It never takes any Man to be worſe than his viſible Actions declare him.

Q. *I have heard it Credibly Affirmed that when Travellers have been at the* Eaſt-Indies, *they know when they are under* London-bridge.

Now Geography *Informs us that the Oppoſite part of the Globe to* England *is that part of the Pacifick Ocean between* 200 *and* 210 *Degrees of Longitude and* 50 *and* 56 *Degrees of* South *Latitude, I deſire you to reconcile theſe two Differences together, if you think it worth your while. From Yours,* Tho. Trueman.

A. You ſeem already ſenſible that this is a Contradiction; and if ſo, it is not in our Power to reconcile it with Truth. In ſhort it is a groſs Abſurdity, or elſe there is a Quibble in it that we do not underſtand, nor are Solicitous about.

Q. Gentlemen, *What are the Inconveniencies of an uncommon Narrow Cheſt, and whether there is any danger in it, and whether the Smoaking of Tobacco be convenient in ſuch a Caſe?*

A. When the Cheſt, or *Thorax* does not conſiſt of proper Dimenſions, the Dilatation of the Lungs is very much hindred and Reſpiration conſequently rendred difficult. And as they are not, by reaſon of their Confinement, in Aſthma's, Catarrhs and Inflammations, ſufficiently enabled to diſcharge themſelves of the offending Matter; ſo they are the more Obnoxious to Ulcers and Impoſthumations, which in thoſe parts are not a little Dangerous. As for the uſe of Tobacco, how hurtful it may be we know not, but we think it can ſcarcely prove beneficial.

Q. *Why is the latter Supine conjugated in a Verb Active when its Signification is Paſſive?*

A. We know no Reaſon that can be given for this: But are of Opinion that it is an Error in Grammarians, who are more govern'd by Precedents than Reaſon.

Q. Gentlemen, *I have been informed by a Perſon who us'd the Sea's for ſome time, that he has ſeen a Bottle (which has been Cork'd down and a Leather ty'd over it) let down empty into the Sea, perhaps* 35 *Fathom and after ſome ſmall reſpite this Bottle has been drawn up full of Freſh Water. I deſire of you Gentlemen to know how or by what means this Water can get into the Bottle, and likewiſe your Opinion upon this matter. Yours as a Subſcriber and Admirer,* Curioſo.

A. If this be Matter of Fact, your Informer has made one of the moſt uſeful Diſcoveries for the Benefit and Advancement of Navigation that can be, and a Thing which the Learned Chymiſts have hitherto in vain Labored after, *viz.* To Extract Sweet Water out of the Sea. For there is a Volatile Salt mixed with Sea Water, which is of ſo Subtil a Nature, that no Diſtillations nor Decoctions can diſſolve that Union. And therefore till we have farther Evidence that this is Fact; we muſt beg leave to ſuſpend giving our Reaſons for it.

Q. Gentlemen, *You are deſired to acquaint us with the Vertues of Ground-Ivy, and whether an Infuſion of that Herb mixed with Milk is not as beneficial in Conſumptions, as Bohea-Tea with Milk.*

A. Ground Ivy is Aperitive, Abſterſive, Vulnerary and Pectoral: It is profitable in the Jaundice, Cholick, Stone and Scurvy, and is particularly ſucceſsful in healing and cleanſing Ulcers of the Lungs, Expectorating Flegm; whence it is highly probable that your Bohea-Tea is not at all preferible to it.

Q. *Whether is it Nonſenſe to ſay,* Bend a thing Straight? *Yours,* E. D.

A. It is undoubtedly Nonſenſe; for the Terms are in Effect contradictory.

Q. *One* Thomas Cranly, *being Indebted to his Siſter in Law* Abigal Cranly *in* 45 l. *gives Bond for Payment of it in* 3 *Months,* &c.

A. We have often declar'd our Reſolution, to meddle with no Affairs, by which any Perſons gain their Livelyhood. Therefore carry your Caſe to an able Counſellor.

Q. Gentlemen, *Your Opinion is deſired in the following. Does a Child Breath whilſt contain'd in the Womb or not? A ſpeedy Anſwer will be very Obliging, a Wager now depending on the ſame. Yours,* &c.

A. It do's not. For while it is in the Womb it has little more than a Vegetative Life, like that of Plants: And all the Airy Particles by which it is Refrigerated muſt be in the Blood and Nutritious Juices, which are not conveyed to it by the Mouth or Noſtrils, but by the String of the Navel, as it is vulgarly called.

Q. Gentlemen, *You was ſo kind lately as to inform me to Varniſh a Picture, but mention'd, it muſt firſt be well clean'd, pray inform me in the beſt way of cleaning it: I doubt not but this may be of uſe to the Publick; for I have heard that many curious Paintings have been ſpoil'd, by not being clean'd and varniſh'd with Skill.*

A. If a Spunge and Warm Water will not get the Soil off, uſe a little Smalt with the Water, but very lightly, or you may fetch off the fine *Touches,* which are the Beauty of the Picture, but if that will not do, but that it is Injur'd with Smoak, than uſe a little Soap, but ſtill with more care, or it will fetch the Colours more off than the other, and if you would recover the Beauty that is tarniſh'd with Smoak, you muſt be contented to loſe ſome of the Beauty of the Hightnings.

Q. Gentlemen, *Some of your Friends are apprehenſive you will trouble your ſelves again about the Ridiculous Notions ſet forth by* John Dunton. *The Town is ſufficiently convinc'd of the abſurdity of his Pretenſions to a Right of anſwering Queſtions, when all know he is incapable of it, nor can expect any Man of Senſe will riſque his Reputation by joyning with ſuch an* Ignoramus. *But unpardonable is the affront he puts upon the* Athenians, *in his Book he calls* Athenianiſm, *by Fathering upon them, a Copy of Wretched, Hobbling, Doggrel Rhimes, to himſelf; and calls it an* HEROICK POEM, *informing the World what a* ſweet Face *he has to Charm the Ladies. But* John Dunton's *Style runs ſo obviouſly through the whole, that no Body can doubt the Author. But the beſt Jeſt is, he ſays poſitively thoſe Lines were ſent him by the* Athenian Society, *yet as poſitively ſays in his Book, that but two Perſons are in being, that were any ways concerned in the* Athenian Oracle, *one of which he reviles, then where is the Society that ſent them. The Town thinks he had better take up his old Trade of* Crying Stinking Fiſh *(for every thing that comes from him* Stinks *now) than meddle with matters on which none will give him the Reading. Yours,* Tho. Butler.

A. Sir, had we not much reſpect for you, we ſhou'd not take ſo much notice of him, as to inſert this.

N. B. A Letter came to us ſubſcrib'd *B. H.* with abundance of Inſulting and Ill manners, on a Miſtake committed in an Anſwer to a Queſtion, *what* 19 *s. multiply'd by* 19 *s. produc'd.* None ſhall be freer to own Miſtakes than we ſhall. That Miſtake happen'd by a Perſon's taking the Queſtion, whoſe Province it was not in, and cou'd one have Anſwer'd Queſtions of all kinds, there had been no occaſion for a Society. But had our Critick a grain of Ingenuity (which we confeſs is not to be expected from one who is maſter of ſo much Ill Language) he might have obſerved in a Paper after, we ſtated the Notion of Multipying one Sum of Money by another Sum of Money, and thence have acknowledg'd we were capable of anſwering a much difficulter Queſtion than that, or perhaps any he is able to draw up; which if he attempts, we muſt deſire him not to be ſo Verboſe, and cram three cloſe Pages with a Trifle.

Q. Gentlemen, *From whence did the Evil Practice of throwing at Cocks ariſe, and whom will the Sin be Imputed to, the Magiſtrates, or the People immediately concerned; and alſo why Pancakes and Fritters ſhould be in Seaſon now, more than at other times.*

A. This was Anſwer'd in our firſt Volume, and another of chooſing *Valentines,* alſo why Cuckolds are ſaid to wear Horns, likewiſe why Improper Sayings are term'd *Bulls,* with many others lately ſent us.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

POEMS

POEMS.

Q. SAY ye *Bright* Delians, *who all* Secrets *know*,
All ſtrange Effects *and* Cauſes, *whence they (flow,*
Who all our Doubts *reſolve, our Anxious* Cares
Relieve and wide diſperſe Impending Fears.
What ſeem'd lockt up by Fate *appears to you,*
And Nature's *ſelf lies* Naked *to your view.*
Oh ſay from whence thoſe wondrous Cheats *ariſe,*
And ev'ry Day are obvious to Eyes;
That ſtill we hope far brighter Joys to ſee,
Yet always find we diſappointed be.
To Morrow's *Dawn ſome freſh Delights we're ſure,*
Beyond e'en Expectation, will procure;
To Morrow *comes, alas, we taſt no more,*
Nay often leſs than what we found before.
Yet we truſt on, ev'n to decrepid Age,
And when we're juſt relinquiſhing the Stage;
Still Hopes *of* Future Joys *delude our Mind,*
Which we in Vig'rous Youth *cou'd never find.*
Ah ſay from whence do theſe Deluſions flow,
To Hope *for* Bliſs, *which we muſt never know?*

A. It is a *Principle* Lodg'd in the Soul,
Ten Thouſand *Diſappointments* can't controul;
That when *OMNIPOTENCE* the Mind did Frame,
And 'ith vaſt *Capacity* adorn'd the ſame;
It alſo vaſt *Delights* and *Pleaſures* meant,
Which might ſuffice, ſuch an Immenſe *EXTENT*,
Thus, tho' we find, we're always in the wrong,
The ſearch, we ſtill Imagin, can't be long:
And ſince in all we've try'd no *Joy* we find,
We fancy 't muſt in ſomething be behind.
But hence, alas, our fond miſtakes ariſe,
We ſeek that *here*, is lodg'd above the *Skies*,
Of *Reaſon* ask, what *Faith* can only give,
And thus Eternally our ſelves *Deceive.*
If on the *Beatific Viſion*, we
Cou'd fix our Minds with Zeal and Fervency;
Such *Images* of *Joys*, our Thoughts wou'd ſeize,
Capacious all our *Faculties* to pleaſe.
That we no longer *here*, ſhou'd Anxious prove,
In ſearch of that, is only found *Above.*

Q. Apollo *one Queſtion,*
I think to inſiſt on,
At leaſt till I meet with an Anſwer;
I hope it will pleaſe ye,
And know it is eaſy,
Tho' you were no more *than a* MAN, *Sir.*

I'm ſtruck with your Wit,
Your Humors *mine hit;*
Sometimes too, I have a Pretence,
To Subjects more Grave,
Of which Numbers you have,
And then I am ſtruck with your Senſe.
Now prithee be free,
And diſcover to me,
If your Perſon *do's ſuit with your Parts;*
If as Handſome and Charming,
As Bright and Alarming.
For then you may Revel *in Hearts.*

If ſo I muſt tell ye,
As my true Name is NELLY,
Ten Thouſand Pounds you ſhall Command,
Provided for Life,
You'll make me your Wife,
And I'll give you my Heart *with my Hand.*

Yours, NELLY.

A. Since *NELLY*'s inclin'd
To be Loving and Kind,
APOLLO cannot be ſo Cruel
To deny her Requeſt,
Whether'n Earneſt or Jeſt,
Altho' to her *Fire* it adds *Fuel.*

A *Man*, we ſuppoſe,
If he has but a *Noſe*,
Has *Beauty* enough to ſuffice;
Yet ſince 'tis expected,
A *GOD*'s more *perfected*,
He 's alſo a Couple of *Eyes.*

But we hope (ſince ſo free)
You as Civil will be,
And *Sol*'s Expectation will Crown,
With a *Nimph* Young and Pritty,
And Vertuous, and Witty,
Or your *Ten Thouſand* never will down.

Q. *As late I was Travelling (no matter whither)*
With only my ſelf and another together,
The Inn was took up, but a Room that was Haunted,
In we both enter'd, for neither was daunted:
But when it ſtruck One, there ſtalk'd in the Room,
A Thing that appear'd in the ſhape of a Groom,
At which on one Jump, out of Window, we came;
And ſtay'd not ſo long, as to ask him his Name.
Now ſay, kind Apollo, *what 'twas did appear,*
For I own, I am ſcarcely yet ſweet of my Fear.

A. There happen'd at *Preſton* a thing of that (Nature;
A Room three Years Haunted b'a young Female (Creature,
One Monſieur *Dumerret* who travell'd that way,
Reſolv'd to adventure and all the Night ſtay;
At twelve with a Candle, one paſs'd in at Door,
Exact in that ſhape which we told you before;
She open'd, then nimbly leap'd into the Bed,
Yet as faſt aſleep ſtill, as if ſhe'd been Dead:
He lay ſtill undaunted, and moſt think *Dumerrit*,
Cou'd tell e'er the Morn, if it was *Fleſh* or *Spirit.*

But

But ſoon they found out, 'twas the Inn-keeper's (Daughter
Who Walk'd in her Sleep, ſo it ended in Laughter.
Like this, yours we fancy; and many the ſame,
Which for *Apparitions* have gained the Name.

SIR,

LONDON, March 10. We have advice from Conſtantinople, that on the 14 of January, the Prolongation of the true between the Ottoman Port and the Czar of Muſcovy was publiſhed there for 8 Years longer than it was before.

The King of Sweden continues at Bender, and tis not yet known when his Majeſty will return to his Territories.

The Deputies of the States General being returned at the Hague, from their Conference at Gertruydenberg which the French Plenipotentiaries made their report of what had paſt, and afterwards the Miniſter of the Emperor ſent an Expreſs to Vienna, as did the other Foreign Miniſters to the reſpective Courts, the French Plenipotentiaries ſent alſo Couriers to Verſailles to have further Inſtructions, but tis now believed at the Hague that nothing will be concluded, and that we ſhall have another Campain. To which End the Allies have already begun their Motions in Flanders, where great Magazines are Erecting for the Support of the Army, and great Preparations are making for the Tranſport of all Neceſſaries——Upon which tis ſaid that the French Generals have ſent orders to their Troops to be in a readineſs to March upon the firſt Command. Which is all from Yours &c.

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I *Goodeth Warden* at *Stoke Newington*, having a long time been troubled with an Inflamation and Flux of Rheum in both my Eyes, I apply'd my ſelf to Mr. *Grant* OCULIST, and he has by God's Bleſſing removed the Cauſe Recovered my Sight: Witneſs my Hand this 16 of *February*, 1709. Witneſs *George Simpſon*, *Tho. Barber*. The Mark of *Goodeth* × *Warden*.

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